

California Solar Initiative

California Public Utilities Commission
Invites Input to

Affordable Housing Component

June 13, 2006



CPUC's Current Solar Program

Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP)

- Non-residential systems only, 30 kW and above
- ~\$50 million per year since 2001
- 50 MW solar capacity installed; 62 MW in progress
- Administered by utilities + 1 NGO



Moscone Center, San Francisco

New California Solar Initiative – CPUC's Program

- ◆ CPUC Decision January 2006
- ◆ CPUC portion to be \$2.5 billion over 2007-2016
- ◆ Goal of 2600 MW (equiv. to 4-5% of California's electricity supply). (+ 400 MW CEC NSHP)
- ◆ Supports consumer adoption of solar and helps solar industry become self-sustaining
- ◆ 10% affordable housing & low income set-aside (approx. \$25 million per year)

New California Solar Initiative

◆ CPUC Program

- Existing residential buildings
 - ◆ Single-family homes
 - ◆ Low-income / affordable housing
 - ◆ Multi-family apartments
- All commercial buildings
 - ◆ Schools
 - ◆ Government buildings
- All industrial facilities
 - ◆ Warehouses
 - ◆ Manufacturing
- All agricultural facilities



Panels on an existing home



University of California, Hayward

Phase 1 “Mainstream” Program Issues & Milestones – January 2007 Implementation

- ◆ Performance-based incentive levels & structure
- ◆ Metering of performance
- ◆ Energy efficiency requirements
- ◆ Program administration – utility and non-profit administrator for small systems
- ◆ Eligible technologies
 - Staff Proposal released April 25
 - Public Workshop May 4
 - Party Comments May 16 & 26
 - Proposed Decision July 25 target
 - Commission Decision August 24 target

Phase 2 Issues and Milestones for Mid-2007 Implementation

- ◆ Affordable Housing – June-September?
 - Discussion and proposals from stakeholders of low-income communities, affordable housing managers, and housing finance entities.
 - CPUC Staff proposed approach – Q4 2006
- ◆ Other Phase 2 Issues – Summer-Fall:
 - Marketing & outreach
 - RD&D to lower costs, boost performance
 - Program evaluation and cost-benefit analysis
 - DG output treatment under RPS and REC
- ◆ Staff Proposal Q4 2006
- ◆ Proposed Decision Q1 or Q2 2007

Phase 1 CPUC Staff Proposal Principles

- ◆ Goal: eliminate ratepayer subsidy over 10-years
- ◆ Achieving 2600 solar MW with fixed incentive budget requires lowering cost per solar kWh or BTU via:
 - Improved or new technologies
 - Enhanced solar system efficiency or performance
 - Lower sales & installation costs
- ◆ Pay for expected solar system performance, not size of installed capacity, not % of installed cost
- ◆ Incentive design principles: Make net solar cost
 - cost-competitive with retail energy purchases, and/or
 - yielding a ten year simple payback for a system with a 25-30 year life.

CPUC Phase 1 “Mainstream” Program Incentives Proposed

Staff Proposal:

- ◆ Two incentive levels for 2007:
 - \$2.25 per watt for residential and non-taxable entities
 - \$1.50 per watt for taxable commercial entities.
- ◆ Expected Performance Based Buydown (EPBB) for systems < 100kW (or a smaller threshold size)
 - One-time up-front payment based on EXPECTED system performance
 - Incentive = Incentive Base Rate x System Rating x Design Factor
 - Design factor accounts for panel orientation and shading, maybe geographic location in California
- ◆ Performance Based Incentive (PBI) Incentive for Larger Systems
 - Equivalent to EPBB, but paid based on metered kWh output over 5 years, e.g. 17 cents and 26 cents/kWh X 5 years
 - No up-front incentive; owner pays cash or finances 100% cost.

Issues for CPUC's Affordable Housing & Low Income Program

- ◆ Initial thinking -- pay up to 25% more in incentives than “mainstream” program.
- ◆ What we want to hear today:
 - Solar interests and goals of low income and affordable housing stakeholders.
 - Will “Phase 1” approach work?
 - What approach would be better, what else is needed?
 - ◆ Technical assistance?
 - ◆ Different administrator?
 - ◆ Financing or loans, not incentive payments?
 - ◆ Ways to integrate closely with energy efficiency?
 - ◆ Other...?

Next Steps

- ◆ Identify stakeholders to participate in CPUC program development
- ◆ Clarify types of buildings in CPUC vs. CEC programs
- ◆ Shall we set broad or specific targets?
- ◆ Flesh out details of promising programmatic approaches
- ◆ Convene workshop(s) or other means to review promising approaches, identify costs & expected solar production for each
- ◆ Identify effective program administration structures